

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1-11 and add new Claims 12 and 13 to read as follows. A marked-up copy of Claims 1-11, showing the changes made thereto, is attached. Note that all the claims currently pending in this application, including those not presently being amended, have been reproduced below for the Examiner's convenience.

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1. (Amended) In combination, a printing apparatus and a print medium to be supplied to the printing apparatus, wherein the printing apparatus has a feeding means for feeding the print medium accommodated in an accommodating portion to a transporting passage facing a printing means and transports the print medium fed by the feeding means along the transporting passage so that the printing means can print on the print medium, a front end of the accommodating portion being positioned a predetermined distance from the feeding means, the print medium comprising:

a print area on which to print a desired image; and

a separable discard area provided in at least a front end portion of the print medium,

wherein a width of the discard area provided in at least the front end portion is greater than the predetermined distance from the front end of the accommodating portion to the feeding means.

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2. (Amended) In combination, a printing apparatus and a print medium to be supplied to the printing apparatus, wherein the printing apparatus has a transport means for transporting the print medium along a transporting passage facing a printing means and a discharge means arranged downstream of the transport means, and at least one of the transport means and the discharge means transports the print medium along the transporting passage so that the printing means can print on the print medium, the discharge means being positioned a predetermined distance from a rearmost effective printing portion of the printing means, the print medium comprising:

a print area on which to print a desired image; and

a separable discard area provided in at least a front end portion of the print medium,

wherein a width of the discard area provided in at least the front end portion is greater than the predetermined distance from the rearmost effective printing portion of the printing means to the discharge means.

3. (Amended) In combination, a printing apparatus and a print medium to be supplied to the printing apparatus, wherein the printing apparatus has a transport means for transporting the print medium along a transporting passage facing a printing means and a discharge means arranged downstream of the transport means, and at least one of the transport means and the discharge means transports the print medium along the transporting passage so that the printing means can print on the print medium, the transport

means being positioned a predetermined distance from a frontmost effective printing portion of the printing means, the print medium comprising:

a print area on which to print a desired image; and

a separable discard area provided in at least a rear end portion of the print medium,

wherein a width of the discard area provided in at least the rear end portion of the print medium is greater than the predetermined distance from the frontmost effective printing portion of the printing means to the transport means.

4. (Amended) In combination, a printing apparatus and a print medium to be supplied to the printing apparatus, wherein the printing apparatus has a feeding means for feeding the print medium accommodated in an accommodating portion to a transporting passage facing a printing means, a transport means for transporting the print medium along a transporting passage and a discharge means arranged downstream of the transport means, and wherein after the print medium has been fed to the transporting passage, at least one of the transport means and the discharge means transports the print medium along the transporting passage so that the printing means can print on the print medium, a front end of the accommodating portion being positioned a first predetermined distance from the feeding means, the discharge means being positioned a second predetermined distance from a rearmost effective printing portion of the printing means, and the transport means being positioned a third predetermined distance from a frontmost effective printing portion of the printing means, the print medium comprising:

a print area on which to print a desired image; and  
a separable discard area provided in at least a front end portion and a rear end portion of the print medium,

wherein a width of the discard area provided in the front end portion of the print medium is greater than the first predetermined distance from the front end of the accommodating portion to the feeding means or the second predetermined distance from the rearmost effective printing portion of the printing means to the discharge means, whichever is a greater distance, and

wherein a width of the discard area provided in the rear end portion of the print medium is greater than the third predetermined distance from the frontmost effective printing portion of the printing means to the transport means.

5. (Amended) A combination according to claim 1, wherein the print medium has a plurality of print areas and the widths of discard areas in the front and rear end portions of the print medium are greater than that of a discard area between the print areas.

6. (Amended) A combination according to claim 1, wherein the print medium has a plurality of print areas and widths of discard areas in left and right end portions of the print medium are greater than a length in the transport direction of the discard area between the print areas.

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7. (Amended) A combination according to claim 1, wherein the print medium has a plurality of print areas and separable discard areas before and after each print area, a discard area in a front end portion of the print medium and a discard area in a rear end portion of the print medium are set equal in width, and a discard area in a left end portion of the print medium and a discard area in a right end portion of the print medium are set equal in width.

8. (Amended) A printing apparatus comprising:  
an accommodating portion for accommodating a print medium, the print medium having a print area on which to print an image and a separable discard area in at least one of a front end portion and a rear end portion thereof; and  
feeding means for feeding the print medium accommodated in the accommodating portion to a transporting passage facing a printing means,  
wherein the print medium fed by the feeding means is transported along the transporting passage so that the printing means can print on the print medium, and  
wherein the accommodating portion is dimensioned such that a distance from a front end of the accommodating portion to the feeding means is less than a width of the discard area in the front end portion of the print medium.

9. (Amended) A printing apparatus comprising:  
transport means for transporting a print medium along a transporting passage facing a printing means, the print medium having a print area on which to print an

image and a separable discard area provided in at least one of a front end portion and a rear end portion thereof; and

discharge means arranged downstream of the transport means,

wherein at least one of the transport means and the discharge means transports the print medium along the transporting passage so that the printing means can print on the print medium, and

wherein a distance from a rearmost effective printing portion of the printing means to the discharge means is less than a width of the discard area provided in the front end portion of the print medium.

10. (Amended) A printing apparatus comprising:

transport means for transporting a print medium along a transporting passage facing a printing means, the print medium having a print area on which to print an image and a discard area separably provided in at least one of a front end portion and a rear end portion thereof; and

discharge means arranged downstream of the transport means,

wherein at least one of the transport means and the discharge means transports the print medium along the transporting passage so that the printing means can print on the print medium, and

wherein a distance from a frontmost effective printing portion of the printing means to the transport means is less than a width of the discard area provided in the rear end portion of the print medium.

11. (Amended) A printing apparatus comprising:

feeding means for feeding a print medium to a transporting passage facing a predetermined printing means, the print medium having a print area on which to print an image and a discard area separably provided in at least one of a front end portion and a rear end portion thereof;

transport means for transporting the print medium along the transporting passage; and

discharge means arranged downstream of the transport means,

wherein after the print medium accommodated in an accommodating portion has been fed to the transporting passage, at least one of the transport means and the discharge means transports the print medium along the transporting passage so that the printing means can print on the print medium,

wherein the print medium has a print area on which to print a desired image and a separable discard area provided in at least a front end portion and a rear end portion thereof,

wherein a distance from a rearmost effective printing portion of the printing means to the discharge means or a distance from a frontmost effective printing portion of the printing means to the transport means, whichever is a greater distance, is less than a width of the discard area provided in the front end portion of the print medium, and the distance from the frontmost effective printing portion of the printing means to the transport means is less than a width of the discard area provided in the rear end portion of the print medium.

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12. (New) A method of manufacturing a print medium to be supplied to a printing apparatus having feeding means for feeding the print medium accommodated in an accommodating portion to a transporting passage facing a printing means and transporting the print medium fed by the feeding means along the transporting passage so that the printing means can print on the print medium, said method comprising the steps of:

determining a distance from a front end of the accommodating portion to the feeding means; and

forming a print medium to include a print area on which to print a desired image, and a separable discard area provided in at least a front end portion of the print medium, with a width of the discard area provided in the front end portion being greater than the distance from the front end of the accommodating portion to the feeding means determined in said determining step.

13. (New) A method of using a print medium to be supplied to a printing apparatus having feeding means for feeding the print medium accommodated in an accommodating portion to a transporting passage facing a printing means and transporting the print medium fed by the feeding means along the transporting passage so that the printing means can print on the print medium, said method comprising the steps of:

determining a distance from a front end of the accommodating portion to the feeding means; and

selecting a print medium that includes a print area on which to print a desired image, and a separable discard area provided in at least a front end portion of the